

## The Challenges and Opportunities of Global Governance and Multilateral Cooperation

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**Abstract:** The world is facing unprecedented challenges and opportunities in the 21st century. From climate change and pandemics to poverty and inequality, the global community needs to work together to find effective and sustainable solutions. The United Nations (UN) is the most universal and representative organization for global governance and multilateral cooperation. However, the UN also faces many difficulties and criticisms in fulfilling its mandate and adapting to the changing world. This paper aims to provide an overview of the main challenges and opportunities of global governance and multilateral cooperation in the UN, and to suggest some ways to for enhance the role and performance of the UN and its partners in delivering global public goods and protecting global commons for the benefit of all humanity.

**Keywords:** United Nations, Global governance, multilateral cooperation, challenges and opportunity.

### INTRODUCTION

The United Nations (UN) is an international organization that was founded in 1945 after the Second World War with a main purpose is to maintain international peace and security, promote cooperation among nations, and protect human rights (UN, 1948). The UN has 193 member states and two observer states: the Holy See and Palestine. The UN has six main organs: the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat. Each organ has a different role and function in the UN system. The General Assembly is the main deliberative and policy-making organ of the UN, where all member states have equal representation and vote on various issues. The Security Council is the primary organ for maintaining international peace and security, and it has the power to impose sanctions or authorize military action. The Economic and Social Council is responsible for coordinating the economic, social, and environmental activities of the UN and its specialized agencies. The Trusteeship Council oversees the administration of territories that are not self-governing, with the aim of promoting their development and independence. The International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the UN, which settles legal disputes between states and gives advisory opinions on legal questions. The Secretariat is the administrative and operational arm of the UN, headed by the Secretary-General, who is the chief executive officer and spokesperson of the organization (Weiss, 2016).

The UN also has various specialized agencies, funds, programs, and commissions that work on

specific issues related to its goals and principles. Some of these include: the World Health Organization (WHO), which deals with global health issues; the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which promotes education, culture, science, and communication; the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), which provides humanitarian assistance to children and mothers in developing countries; the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which protects and assists refugees and displaced persons; the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which supports sustainable development and poverty reduction; and the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), which monitors and promotes human rights around the world (UN, 2020).

The UN faces many challenges and criticisms in its work, such as its effectiveness, legitimacy, representation, accountability, transparency, bureaucracy, reform, funding, and relevance. Despite these difficulties, the UN remains a vital platform for dialogue and cooperation among nations, as well as a source of hope and inspiration for millions of people who benefit from its humanitarian and peacekeeping efforts.

Global governance is a way of managing global affairs that involves various actors and levels of action (Kaul, *et al.*, 2009). It aims at providing global public goods, such as peace, justice, markets, and risk management. It is not the same as global government, which does not exist. It can take different forms depending on the issue and the actors involved (Klabbers, *et al.*, 2019).

Multilateral cooperation is a key aspect of global governance, as it allows states and other actors to coordinate their policies and actions for the common good. Multilateral cooperation can help address global challenges, such as climate change, pandemics, terrorism, poverty, and human rights violations (UN, 2004). Multilateral cooperation can also promote global norms and values, such as democracy, human dignity, and rule of law.

The significance of global governance and multilateral cooperation is evident in the current world situation, where interdependence and complexity are increasing. No single actor or country can solve the problems that affect humanity as a whole. Therefore, there is a need for collective action and shared responsibility among all stakeholders. Global governance and multilateral cooperation can provide the framework and the mechanisms for such action and responsibility.

However, global governance and multilateral cooperation are not without challenges and limitations. Some of the challenges include: lack of representation and accountability of some global institutions; power asymmetries and inequalities among actors; divergent interests and values; resistance to change and reform; and lack of trust and legitimacy. These challenges require constant dialogue, negotiation, compromise, and innovation to overcome them.

Global governance and multilateral cooperation are essential for addressing the global issues that affect us all. They are also dynamic and evolving processes that need to adapt to the changing world. As citizens of the world, we have a stake and a role in shaping the future of global governance and multilateral cooperation (Anheier & Mertens, 2019).

However, global governance and multilateralism are under strain from various sources, such as the rise of unilateralism and protectionism, the erosion of trust and legitimacy, the fragmentation of interests and agendas, the emergence of new actors and technologies, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic (Czaputowicz & Wojciechowski, 2020). These sources pose serious threats to the rules-based global order and the prospects for peace and prosperity for all.

Therefore, it is imperative to strengthen global governance and multilateralism by enhancing cooperation and dialogue among all stakeholders, reforming and adapting multilateral institutions to reflect current realities and needs, fostering

innovation and inclusiveness in global problem-solving, and defending the principles and values of the UN Charter. Such efforts will help to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and build a more resilient and equitable world (UN, 2015).

The world today is facing unprecedented challenges and opportunities in terms of global governance and multilateral cooperation. From climate change and pandemics to trade and security, the need for effective and inclusive global solutions is more urgent than ever. However, the current system of global governance is often fragmented, outdated and under-resourced. How can we improve the existing institutions and mechanisms of global cooperation? How can we foster more trust and solidarity among different actors and stakeholders? How can we ensure that the benefits and costs of globalization are shared fairly and equitably? These are some of the questions that this study aims to address. This paper therefore seeks to investigate the challenges and opportunities of global governance and multilateral cooperation using the activities within the framework of United Nations as a case study.

## STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Global governance and multilateral cooperation are essential for addressing the complex and interrelated challenges that humanity faces in the 21st century. From climate change and pandemics to poverty and human rights, these issues require collective action and coordination among states and other actors at the global level (UN, 2004). However, the current system of global governance and multilateral cooperation is facing a number of difficulties and limitations that undermine its effectiveness and legitimacy.

These challenges pose serious risks for the future of global governance and multilateral cooperation, as well as for the peace, security, development, and human dignity of all people. Therefore, it is imperative to explore ways to overcome these difficulties and to enhance the performance and legitimacy of global governance and multilateral cooperation. This requires a comprehensive and critical analysis of the current situation, as well as a vision and a strategy for reform and innovation. It is against this background that this paper seeks to investigate the challenges and opportunities of global governance and multilateral cooperation using the activities within the framework of United Nations as a case study.

## OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The main purpose of this paper is to investigate the challenges and opportunities of global governance and multilateral cooperation using the activities within the framework of United Nations as a case study.

The specific objective of this study is to

- Provide a comprehensive and critical analysis of the current state and future prospects of global governance and multilateral cooperation within the framework of United Nations.
- Examine the main challenges and opportunities that exist within the framework of United Nations, such as security, human rights, development, environment, health, trade, and finance.
- Assess the performance and legitimacy of United Nations and mechanisms of global governance.
- Identify the gaps and weaknesses in the current system of global governance and propose concrete recommendations for improving its effectiveness and inclusiveness.

## RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the comprehensive and critical analysis of the current state and future prospects of global governance and multilateral cooperation within the framework of United Nations?
2. What are the main challenges and opportunities that exist in United Nations such as security, human rights, development, environment, health, trade, and finance?
3. What is the performance and legitimacy of United Nations and mechanisms of global governance?
4. What are the gaps and weaknesses in the current system of global governance?

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Global governance and multilateral cooperation are two concepts that are often used interchangeably in the academic and policy discourse on international relations. However, they are not synonymous and have different implications for the actors and institutions involved in addressing global challenges. In this paper, the researcher reviewed some of the main definitions and debates on these concepts, and highlight some of the advantages and disadvantages of each approach.

Global governance is a broad term that refers to the collective efforts of various actors, such as

states, international organizations, civil society, private sector, and others, to manage common affairs and problems that transcend national boundaries (Weiss & Wilkinson, 2014). Global governance does not imply a single authority or a world government, but rather a network of formal and informal arrangements that facilitate cooperation and coordination among diverse actors. Global governance can be seen as a response to the increasing complexity and interdependence of the world, where traditional state-centric mechanisms of governance are insufficient or inadequate (Kaul, *et al.*, 2015).

Multilateral cooperation is a more specific term that refers to the joint action of three or more states based on shared interests and norms. Multilateral cooperation can take place within or outside the framework of international organizations, such as the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, or the World Health Organization. Multilateral cooperation can be seen as a subset of global governance, where states are the primary actors and decision-makers. The main difference between global governance and multilateral cooperation lies in the degree of inclusiveness and diversity of the actors involved. Global governance encompasses a wider range of actors and issues than multilateral cooperation, which is more focused on state-to-state relations. Global governance also implies a more horizontal and flexible mode of interaction than multilateral cooperation, which is more hierarchical and rule-based.

According to Klabbers, *et al.*, (2019), the advantages of global governance include:

- It can address complex and cross-cutting issues that require the participation and expertise of multiple actors from different sectors and levels.
- It can enhance the legitimacy and accountability of global decision-making by involving a broader spectrum of stakeholders and perspectives.
- It can foster innovation and creativity by allowing for experimentation and learning from different practices and experiences.

The disadvantages of global governance include:

- It can create coordination and coherence problems due to the multiplicity and fragmentation of actors and agendas.
- It can generate power asymmetries and inequalities among the actors involved, especially between state and non-state actors.

- It can face challenges of effectiveness and implementation due to the lack of binding authority and enforcement mechanisms.

The advantages of multilateral cooperation include:

- It can provide a stable and predictable framework for cooperation based on shared rules and norms.
  - It can enhance the efficiency and credibility of global action by pooling resources and capabilities of states.
  - It can foster trust and solidarity among states by creating a sense of collective identity and responsibility.
- The disadvantages of multilateral cooperation include:
- It can exclude or marginalize non-state actors and issues that are not aligned with state interests or preferences.
  - It can face difficulties of adaptation and reform due to the rigidity and inertia of institutional structures and procedures.
  - It can suffer from collective action problems due to the diversity and divergence of state interests and incentives.

In conclusion, global governance and multilateral cooperation are two complementary but distinct concepts that have different strengths and weaknesses in addressing global challenges. There is no one-size-fits-all solution for global governance or multilateral cooperation, but rather a need for context-specific analysis and design. The optimal balance between global governance and multilateral cooperation depends on various factors, such as the nature and scope of the issue, the preferences and capacities of the actors involved, and the existing institutional arrangements available.

The Comprehensive and Critical Analysis of the Current State and Future Prospects of Global Governance and Multilateral Cooperation

Global governance and multilateral cooperation are essential for addressing the complex and interrelated challenges that the world faces today, such as climate change, pandemics, conflicts, inequality, and human rights. However, these concepts are also under strain from various factors, such as geopolitical tensions, protectionism, populism, and unilateralism.

Global governance refers to the collective efforts of multiple actors, such as states, international organizations, civil society, and private sector, to

manage common affairs and problems that transcend national boundaries. Multilateral cooperation is a specific form of global governance that involves three or more states agreeing on common rules and norms to pursue shared interests and values. Multilateralism can take place at different levels, such as global, regional, subregional, bilateral, or trilateral, and can involve various mechanisms, such as treaties, institutions, forums, or networks.

The benefits of global governance and multilateral cooperation are manifold. They can help foster peace and security by preventing and resolving conflicts, promoting dialogue and trust, and addressing common threats. They can also help advance economic development and social justice by facilitating trade and investment, reducing poverty and inequality, enhancing human rights and democracy, and providing public goods and services. Moreover, they can help protect the environment and human health by tackling climate change and biodiversity loss, promoting sustainable development and green growth, and combating diseases and pandemics.

However, the current state of global governance and multilateral cooperation is far from ideal. There are several challenges and limitations that hinder their effectiveness and legitimacy of such global organisation such as United Nations.

The United Nations (UN) is a vital platform for global governance and multilateral cooperation, especially in the face of complex and interrelated challenges such as climate change, inequality, conflict, and human rights. However, the UN system also faces significant limitations and gaps in its ability to deliver effective and inclusive solutions for the common good of humanity and the planet.

As earlier buttressed, Global governance and multilateral cooperation are essential for addressing the complex and interrelated challenges that the world faces today. The United Nations, as the only truly universal and inclusive multilateral forum, has a central role to play in fostering a more effective and coherent system of global economic governance, as well as in promoting peace, human rights, and sustainable development. However, the UN also faces many challenges and limitations in fulfilling its mandate and responding to the expectations of its Member States and people around the world. The current state of global governance and multilateral cooperation in the UN can be described as mixed and uneven. On



one hand, there have been some notable achievements and progress in recent years, such as the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (UN, 2015), the Paris Agreement on climate change (UN, 2004), the Global Compact for Migration, and the UN Declaration (UN, 2019). These initiatives demonstrate the willingness and capacity of Member States to work together on common goals and challenges, as well as the leadership and convening power of the UN Secretary-General and other UN entities. On the other hand, there have also been many setbacks and difficulties in advancing global governance and multilateral cooperation in the UN, such as the persistent inequalities and imbalances in representation and participation of developing countries in key decision-making processes and institutions, the lack of compliance and accountability of Member States to their obligations and commitments under international law and norms, the erosion of trust and solidarity among Member States and between Member States and the UN, the fragmentation and duplication of efforts across different UN agencies and bodies, and the insufficient resources and capacities of the UN to deliver effective solutions to complex problems.

The future prospects of global governance and multilateral cooperation in the UN depend largely on the political will and collective action of Member States, as well as on the vision and innovation of the UN leadership and staff. The UN Secretary-General has recently launched his report "Our Common Agenda" (UN, 1987 & UN, 2021), which outlines a number of recommendations to renew and strengthen global governance and multilateral cooperation in the UN for the next 25 years. Some of these recommendations include: a renewal of the social contract, anchored in human rights, to rebuild trust and social cohesion; a focus on the future, through a deepening of solidarity with young people and future generations; urgent action to protect and deliver global commons and global public goods through a more networked, inclusive and effective multilateralism; an upgraded UN that is fit for a new era and can offer more relevant, system-wide, multilateral and multi-stakeholder solutions to the challenges of the 21st century. The report also proposes to hold a Summit of the Future in 2023, which would bring together world leaders, civil society, youth, experts, and other stakeholders to discuss and agree on a common vision for humanity's future.

The report "Our Common Agenda" is an important contribution to stimulate dialogue and action on global governance and multilateral cooperation in the UN. However, it is not enough by itself. It requires strong support and engagement from Member States and other actors to translate its recommendations into concrete policies and actions. It also requires continuous monitoring and evaluation to ensure its effectiveness and impact. Ultimately, it requires a shared commitment to uphold the values and principles of the UN Charter, which remains the foundation of global governance and multilateral cooperation in the UN.

The Main Challenges and Opportunities that Exist in Various Domains of Global Governance in United Nations , Such as Security, Human Rights, Development, Environment, Health, Trade, and Finance

Global governance is the process of coordinating and managing the collective actions of states and other actors on issues that transcend national boundaries. The United Nations (UN) is the most prominent and comprehensive forum for global governance, as it brings together 193 member states and dozens of specialized agencies, funds, programs, and other entities. However, the UN faces many challenges and opportunities in various domains of global governance, such as security, human rights, development, environment, health, trade, and finance. In this paper, the researcher discussed briefly some of these challenges and opportunities in each domain.

**Security:** The UN has the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security, as mandated by its Charter. The UN Security Council is the main organ for deciding on collective measures to prevent or resolve conflicts, such as sanctions, peacekeeping operations, or military interventions. However, the Security Council often faces difficulties in reaching consensus among its five permanent members (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States), who have veto power over its decisions. Moreover, the Security Council has been criticized for its lack of representation and legitimacy, as it does not reflect the current geopolitical realities and the diversity of the world (Weiss, 2016). Some of the opportunities for improving the UN's role in security include reforming the Security Council's membership and working methods, enhancing cooperation with regional organizations and civil society actors, and strengthening the UN's capacity for conflict prevention and mediation.

**Human Rights:** The UN has a vital role in promoting and protecting human rights around the world, as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international treaties and conventions (UN, 1948; UN, 1998 and UN, 2019). The UN Human Rights Council is the main intergovernmental body for addressing human rights violations and making recommendations to improve human rights situations. The UN also has a network of independent experts, known as special rapporteurs or working groups, who monitor and report on specific human rights issues or countries. However, the UN's human rights work faces many challenges, such as political interference and selectivity by some states, lack of resources and enforcement mechanisms, and resistance from non-state actors who commit human rights abuses. Some of the opportunities for enhancing the UN's human rights impact include strengthening its cooperation with national human rights institutions and civil society organizations, increasing its public awareness and education campaigns on human rights norms and standards, and developing more effective ways to hold perpetrators accountable and provide remedies to victims.

**Development:** The UN has a central role in supporting sustainable development for all countries and people, as articulated in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (UN, 2015). The UN Development System consists of various entities that provide technical assistance, policy advice, financial resources, and normative guidance to countries on their development priorities. The UN also facilitates global partnerships and cooperation among different stakeholders on development issues.

### **The Performance and Legitimacy of United Nations and Mechanisms of Global Governance**

One way to approach these questions is to examine the different dimensions and types of legitimacy that the UN claims or aspires to have. According to some scholars, legitimacy can be defined as "the normative belief by an actor that a rule or institution ought to be obeyed" (Hurd, 1999). Legitimacy can also be distinguished between input-oriented and output-oriented aspects. Input-oriented legitimacy refers to the extent to which an institution is representative, participatory, transparent, and responsive to its constituents. Output-oriented legitimacy refers to the extent to which an institution delivers effective, efficient,

and equitable outcomes that meet its goals and mandates (Bernstein, 2011).

Based on these dimensions, one can evaluate the performance and legitimacy of the UN from different perspectives. For example, some critics argue that the UN Security Council, as the main organ responsible for maintaining international peace and security, lacks input legitimacy because it does not reflect the current distribution of power and interests in the world, especially of the emerging powers and developing countries. They also contend that the Security Council is often ineffective or biased in addressing various conflicts and crises, such as Syria, Yemen, or Myanmar, thus undermining its output legitimacy (Bradford, 2006). On the other hand, some defenders of the UN argue that the Security Council still enjoys a degree of input legitimacy because it represents the collective will of the international community as expressed through the UN Charter and resolutions. They also point out that the Security Council has achieved some successes in resolving or preventing conflicts, such as in Liberia, Sierra Leone, or Iran, thus enhancing its output legitimacy (Yang, 2021).

Another way to approach these questions is to consider the different actors and audiences that confer or contest legitimacy to the UN. According to some scholars, legitimacy can be seen as a social construct that depends on the perceptions and evaluations of various stakeholders, such as states, civil society, media, experts, or public opinion. Legitimacy can also vary across levels and contexts, such as domestic, regional, or global (Dellmuth, *et al.*, 2019). Therefore, one can analyze how different actors and audiences view and influence the legitimacy of the UN in different situations and domains.

For example, some observers (Krasner, 1983; Weiss & Wilkinson, 2014; Klabber, *et al.*, 2019 and Gómez-Robledo, 2019), note that the US, as the most powerful state in the world and a permanent member of the Security Council, has a significant impact on the legitimacy of the UN. The US can enhance or undermine the legitimacy of the UN by supporting or opposing its decisions and actions, by providing or withholding financial and political resources, and by shaping or challenging public opinion and media narratives about the UN (Hurd, 2008). Similarly, some observers note that global civil society, as a diverse and dynamic network of non-state actors that advocate for various causes and values, has a significant role in legitimizing or delegitimizing

the UN. Global civil society can enhance or undermine.

### **The Gaps and Weaknesses in the Current System of Global Governance in United Nations**

One of the main gaps in the current system of global governance in the UN is the lack of representation and participation of developing countries and marginalized groups. The UN is often criticized for being dominated by a few powerful states, especially the five permanent members of the Security Council (P5), who have veto power over any substantive decision. This creates an imbalance of power and influence in the UN, and undermines its legitimacy and credibility as a representative and democratic institution. Moreover, many developing countries and marginalized groups, such as women, youth, indigenous peoples and civil society organizations, face various barriers and challenges in accessing and influencing the UN processes and mechanisms (Deitelhoff & Wallbott, 2012). For example, they may lack the resources, capacity, information or networks to effectively engage with the UN. As a result, their voices and perspectives are often ignored or marginalized in the global agenda-setting and decision-making.

Another weakness in the current system of global governance in the UN is the lack of accountability and transparency. The UN is often accused of being inefficient, bureaucratic, corrupt or politicized. There are many instances where the UN has failed to deliver on its promises or commitments, or to prevent or respond to grave violations of human rights or international law. For example, the UN has been criticized for its inability to prevent or stop the genocide in Rwanda in 1994 (Mamdani, 2001), the humanitarian crisis in Syria since 2011 (Hall and Todman, 2021), or the sexual abuse scandals by some of its peacekeepers in various countries (BBC, 2016). Moreover, there is a lack of effective oversight and scrutiny mechanisms to hold the UN and its officials accountable for their actions or inactions. There is also a lack of transparency and access to information on how the UN operates, spends its resources, or makes its decisions.

A third weakness in the current system of global governance in the UN is the lack of coherence and coordination among its various organs, agencies and entities. The UN is composed of multiple bodies and actors with different mandates, functions and interests. However, there is often a lack of clear division of roles and responsibilities among them, or a lack of effective communication

and collaboration among them. This leads to duplication, fragmentation or inconsistency in the UN's policies and actions. For example, there may be conflicting or contradictory resolutions or recommendations issued by different UN bodies on the same issue. There may also be gaps or overlaps in the delivery of services or assistance by different UN agencies or entities on the ground.

These are some of the major gaps and weaknesses in the current system of global governance in the UN that need to be addressed urgently. Some possible ways to address them include:

- Reforming the Security Council to make it more representative, democratic and accountable. This could involve expanding its membership to include more developing countries and regions, limiting or abolishing the veto power of the P5, or creating new mechanisms for oversight and review of its decisions.
- Enhancing the participation and empowerment of developing countries and marginalized groups in the UN. This could involve providing more financial and technical support, capacity-building, information-sharing or networking opportunities for them to effectively engage with the UN. It could also involve creating more spaces and platforms for them to voice their opinions and concerns, such as through special representatives, advisory groups or dialogues.
- Strengthening the accountability and transparency of the UN. This could involve establishing more independent and robust mechanisms for monitoring, evaluation, reporting or investigation of the UN's performance or conduct. It could also involve increasing the access to information and participation of stakeholders, such as member states, civil society organizations or media outlets, in the UN's processes and mechanisms.
- Improving the coherence and coordination among the UN's organs, agencies and entities. This could involve clarifying their mandates, roles and responsibilities, or creating more joint strategies, plans or actions among them. It could also involve enhancing their communication and collaboration through common platforms, tools or networks.

### **SUMMARY**

Global governance and multilateral cooperation are not only a matter of necessity but also of opportunity. They can help harness the potential of

globalization and technological innovation for the benefit of all people and the planet. They can also foster a culture of peace and solidarity among nations and peoples. The United Nations remains committed to strengthening global governance and multilateralism for a more peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable world.

Global governance and multilateral cooperation are essential for addressing the complex and interrelated challenges that the world faces today, such as conflict, climate change, inequality, poverty, and health. The United Nations, as the most universal and representative multilateral organization, plays a vital role in promoting and facilitating cooperation among its member states and other stakeholders, based on the principles and values of its Charter.

However, the effectiveness and legitimacy of global governance and multilateralism are under strain, as some major powers question the rules-based international order, withdraw from multilateral agreements and institutions, and pursue unilateral actions that undermine global norms and interests. The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the fragility and gaps of the existing global governance system, as well as the need for stronger solidarity and coordination to respond to common threats. The United Nations has a unique opportunity to revitalize and reform its structures and processes, to adapt to the changing global context and to meet the expectations of its members and people around the world. The Secretary-General has launched several initiatives to strengthen the UN's role in peace and security, development, human rights, humanitarian action, and digital cooperation. He has also called for a renewed commitment to multilateralism and a networked and inclusive multilateral system that engages regional organizations, civil society, private sector, academia, media, and youth.

The challenges and opportunities of global governance and multilateral cooperation in United Nations require collective action and political will from all actors. The 75th anniversary of the United Nations in 2020 provides a historic moment to reaffirm the values of the Charter, to renew the trust in multilateralism, and to revitalize the global partnership for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

## CONCLUSION

In this paper, the researcher explored some of the main challenges and opportunities of global governance and multilateral cooperation in the

context of the United Nations. From the researcher point of view, it can be observed how the UN has evolved over time to respond to the changing needs and demands of its member states and the global community, as well as how it has faced some of the criticisms and limitations of its structure and functioning. Some of the achievements and contributions of the UN in various fields, such as peace and security, human rights, development, humanitarian assistance, and environmental protection were also highlighted. It can be submitted that the UN remains a vital and indispensable actor in the global arena, despite its flaws and shortcomings, and that it has a unique role and responsibility to promote and uphold the values and principles of the UN Charter. It was suggested that multilateralism is not an end in itself, but a means to achieve common goals and shared interests in a complex and interdependent world. Therefore, there is call for a renewed commitment to multilateralism and global governance, based on the recognition that we are all in this together, and that we have a collective responsibility to protect our planet and our humanity.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of this paper, the researcher made the following recommendations:

1. There is need to strengthen the role and legitimacy of the UN as the primary forum for global dialogue and decision-making on issues of peace, security, human rights and development.
2. There is need to enhance the representation and participation of all member states and stakeholders in the UN system, especially those from developing countries and underrepresented regions.
3. Promotion of a culture of cooperation and solidarity among member states and regional organizations, based on shared values and principles, mutual respect and trust, and a common vision for the future is of importance.
4. There is need to foster a more effective and coherent UN response to global challenges, such as climate change, pandemics, poverty, inequality, terrorism and cyber threats, by improving coordination and collaboration among UN agencies, funds and programs.
5. All member states must learn to support the implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, as well as other relevant international frameworks and commitments.



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